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PROGRAMME PLANNING

Country and intercountry programmes and projects

EXTENSION OF THE SECOND COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR ANGOLA

Note by the Administrator

1. The second country programme for Angola was approved by the Governing Council at its thirty-fourth session and covered the period from 1987 to 1991. The programme was launched in anticipation of the implementation by the Government of a national financial stabilization and economic reform programme, the parameters of which were established during the second congress of the MPLA Workers Party in December 1985. UNDP assistance had, and still has, the main aim of improving economic management, while facilitating institutional reorganization and policy development: the mid-term review of the country programme found that the objectives of the country programme were in line with those being pursued in the Government's national development plans; they remain valid for the period of the extension.

2. During the course of the second country programme, the security situation worsened seriously. Faced with the consequences of the war and repeated periods of drought in southern provinces, the Government appealed to the Secretary-General for urgent humanitarian assistance. The United Nations Special Relief Programme for Angola was launched in October 1990 to provide urgently needed supplies to those populations that were worst affected.

3. Meanwhile, the Government has been forced to adjust its national development priorities and resort to short-term planning measures. A one-year national plan, with a significant emergency component, was implemented in 1991, but had to be substantially revised in the second half of the year. As part of peace accords, signed on 31 May 1991, it was agreed that multiparty

elections would be held; they are now scheduled for September 1992. It is expected that a one-year plan will be announced for 1992 and will place emphasis on the resettlement and reintegration of large numbers of returnees, displaced persons and demobilized militia. The United Nations Special Relief Programme for Angola has been extended to the end of the same year in order to provide food and non-food assistance to these and other vulnerable groups during the transitional period.

4. The Government has requested an extension of the current country programme for one year, to allow time for the necessary assessment of its medium-term objectives and priorities.

5. In view of the above, the Administrator wishes to inform the Governing Council that he has approved the extension of the second country programme for Angola for a period of one year, to the end of 1992.